talian Division, SI, MED70 Headquarters Detachment 16 January 1945 JR-1581 2677 th REGIENT (Prov) SECRET OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES CONTROL ORIGINAL REPORT NO. JR-1581 COUNTRY Italy SUBJECT DO Gasperi's Report on Foreign Policy DATE OF REPORT 16 January 1945 to His Party; Tunis Question Revived EVALUATION C-3 JR- 1528 COMPAREMENTACION) SUPPLEMENT JR-1567 SOUPCE CONSTITUTION Vessel SUB SOURCE NUMBER OF PAGES 2 DATE OF INFORMATION GUTTON'S ATTACHMENTS PLACE OF ORIGIN ROME THEATRE MED-HQ DET Foreign Minister De Gasperi, Christian Democratic leader, who is conferring regularly on Italian foreign policy with his party and with his party's Committee on Foreign Folicy, has burned up the Tunis question in Italo-Prench relations. In a meeting on D January of the Executive Committee of the party and the Foreign Policy Committee, the question was discussed. De Gasperi, Vice Premier Rodino' Spataro, and the two editors of the Christian Democratic daily newspapers, Gonella (11 Popolo) and informani (11 Questidiano), were present, De Gasperi Dresided. THEATRE Mash (2) CASERTA (5) LONDON PARIS , Balk Desk Cen kur Desk The meeting examined the Tunis question in connection with possible resumption of diplomatic relations between Italy and France. S: A summary of De Gasperi's statements follows: - He declared he was preoccupied with the status of Italians in Tunisia. France insists that Italy renounce the question of mationality but he is not inclined to accept this mimiliation because if the Rome Government should yield on this issue, which has been dragging on for years. incidents might dragging ou for years, incidents might develop in the near future to provoke unfavorable reaction in Italian public opinion. De Gasperi stated he was assured, in a SECRET - CONTROL

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- recent conversation with Querin, French diplomatic representative at the Vatican, that he would serve as interpreter of Italian policy to the French covernment and would convey the Italian Government's desire for conciliation between Italy and France.
- de said that querin deployed the attitude of his government in regard to Foland and expressed appreciation for the Italian Government's stand.
- De Gesperi further stated that in a second converation with Guerin, he learned that the Czech Government he recognized the London Polish Government and that, according to a statement of the French Ambassador in ashington reported to the Vatidan, the De Gaulle Government also will recognize it and will not dispatch a French observer to the Lublin Provisional Government, as previously reported.
- De Gasperi stated that ho was told by the British Minister at the Vatican that the Christian Demooratic revement internationally is becoming exceptionally important in the conflict with Mussian policy. De Gasperi added that Myron, Taylor had also stated to him that the movement is taking root in the United States, and that in the Pope's Christmas speech there is a militant program against the Bolsheviet forces of dissolution in liberated countries.

Comment:

Anti-fescist circles in and close to the Government and the political parties are critical of the Tunis question being revived. It is regarded as a carry-over from the foreign policy of the Pascist regime. Criticism of De Casperi on this score tends to associate him closely with the conservative forces of the past regime.

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